

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 [0074] A system and method for probing a plurality of clients for a rate  
3 appropriate for multicasting is described. In one implementation, test data is sent  
4 by a server to a plurality of clients. A rate,  $R_i$ , based at least in part on a rate at  
5 which test data was received, is sent by at least some of the plurality of clients to  
6 the server. A rate,  $R_0$ , at which an image is to be sent to the plurality of clients, is  
7 then calculated as a function of at least some of the  $R_i$ .

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